

Maintain media diversity for the People's airwaves.

I write concerning Docket No. 02-277, the FCC's scandalous giveaway to News Corp, Disney, GE, ClearChannel and other media giants.

It is completely unclear to me why deregulation of media ownership would be in the public interest. Democracy requires diversity of points of view. Monopoly and near monopoly control of media outlets in many smaller markets fails all of us, and endangers popular support of American institutions generally.

A recent example is ClearChannel's organization of political rallies, and its more or less fascist intimidation of the Dixie Chicks. ClearChannel's share of the radio (and in my area, broadcast television market as well) suggests they already have an unhealthy effect on political debate in many parts of the country. Why in the name of the Holy One that Commissioner Powell and the political hacks that make up the commission thinks they need more escapes me.

The airwaves are a public resource that should not be given away to people who claim they own nothing to the public but "entertainment", and everything else to their stockholders. Please reconsider this act of monumental stupidity that that the Commission is considering to inflict on the American Public.

Sincerely,  
Rob Thorne  
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